



City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Transportation

Scott Kubly, Director

October 16, 2014

Dear neighbor,

This past summer you received a letter from me, informing you that the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) would be repaving Third Avenue from Denny Way to Virginia Street. At the time, I indicated our plans were to begin construction in the spring of 2015, with work expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to secure the necessary funding for the project, forcing us to postpone the work until at least 2016. The need to repave the roadway has not disappeared, and it is certainly our intention to move forward with the project once funding becomes available.

That being said, SDOT has moved ahead with the installation of right-turn pockets at four intersections on Third Avenue. The change was made at the request of King County Metro in order to improve transit speed and reliability along this very active transit corridor. The locations are:

- Virginia St (northbound)
- Stewart St (southbound)
- Blanchard St (northbound)
- Battery Street (northbound)

The city also installed left-turn restrictions during both the AM and PM commute peak periods northbound at Lenora Street and southbound at Virginia Street. (If you have questions or concerns about this particular project, you can contact my SDOT colleague, Christine Alar, at 206/684-0572 or email her at christine.alar@seattle.gov.)

Finally, SDOT is also working with King County Metro on a Third Avenue Transit Corridor Improvement Project, intended to add a number of transit and pedestrian improvements along Third Avenue between Denny Way and S Jackson Street. This particular project is in the early stages of design. The work will likely include constructing elements such as a wider sidewalk and a wide red curb to clearly mark it as a bus zone (similar to the recent improvements by Macy's). You'll be hearing more about this particular project as it moves ahead in planning.

Again, please be aware that it is our intention to move ahead with the repaving of Third Avenue once funding is secured. We hope this will occur in 2016, but we will continue to communicate with you as things become clearer. Thank you in advance for your understanding and please don't hesitate to call or email if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Johanna Landherr

Project Manager

Seattle Department of Transportation

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